

XXIX. *On the identity of Coccus floccosus, DeGeer, and Orthezia Normani, Doug.* By J. W. DOUGLAS.

[Read September 7th, 1881.]

FOLLOWING Dr. Signoret I had deemed that *Coccus floccosus*, DeGeer, was synonymous with *Orthezia urticæ*, Linn., with the reservation, however, that DeGeer's figure (Mém. vii., pl. 44, fig. 26) was "rude and unsatisfactory" (Ent. Mo. Mag. xvii., p. 175). But at that time I did not know the species I afterwards described and figured, under the name of *Orthezia Normani*, in the present volume of the Transactions of this Society, p. 300, Pl. XV., figs. 12—15, and a renewed investigation induces me now to believe that it was probably this species and not *O. urticæ* that DeGeer had before him. In his figure the very peculiar character of the dorsal laminae in *O. Normani*—a deep and wide median excision—is tolerably represented, but in this latter species three or four of the anterior segments only have this conformation, the remainder being mostly narrow and straight, whereas in DeGeer's figure each segment has the broad form of lamination equally developed. The lateral laminae in DeGeer's figure are represented of equal length and breadth throughout; whereas in *O. Normani* only the first three or four are broad, curved, and projecting, the remainder being narrow, straight, parallel, and more backwardly directed. In his description, DeGeer says that the laminae are arranged like tiles, or the scales of fishes, but this simile is true with respect to *O. Normani*, both as to the dorsal and lateral laminae, only when the insect is viewed from the front, because it is the upper edge of a lamina that rests upon the lower side of the one *preceding* it; and, with respect to *O. urticæ*, the simile is correct only with regard to the laminae composing the dorsal ridges, the overlapping of the lateral laminae not being evident. His further description, "Il y en a d'abord une couche au milieu du corps, plus courtes que les autres et arrangées sur deux lignes, de façon que celles de l'une de ces lignes vont

rencontrer celles de l'autre rang par leur base, et elles représentent ensemble comme une petite feuille decoupée," may apply either to *urticæ* or *Normani*, yet it seems to suit the latter the best; but his remark respecting the lateral laminæ, "elles sont toutes un peu courbées," is the most at variance with *O. Normani*. There is this, however, to be said, that DeGeer's description and figure appear to represent an immature insect, while mine refer to a female with a developed marsupium, and the immature form, male or female, which I have not become acquainted with, may have more of the characters represented by DeGeer.

On a careful consideration of the whole of the facts I now think, notwithstanding the apparent discrepancies, that DeGeer's species is not only quite distinct from *O. urticæ*, but that it is the same that I have named *O. Normani*, and that, therefore, for the latter *O. floccosa*, DeGeer, must be the name to be adopted.